

concerned about the water issue in the cities. As you recall, a few years ago I introduced a bill because in South Omaha we have problems with rendering plants, packing plants, paunch manure sites, compost sites and chemicals are used in the water and in the process to eliminate the odors and of course that goes into our sewer system and you have mentioned the fact that water belongs to everyone and I think that is the most important statement that was made here today, because in my district we're very concerned with contaminating water and what is happening in my district. If a bill was introduced, I'm sure, to eliminate some of the problems that we have because of the industry that we have in South Omaha, I'm sure that bill would go to Public Works. Am I correct, Senator Schmit, because of the fact that it concerns the cities?

SENATOR SCHMIT: Senator Labedz, historically the bills would have gone to the Public Works Committee. If these bills that we are discussing here today are assigned to the Ag Committee, then I believe it is fair to assume that those bills in the future would go to the Ag and Environment Committee and would no longer be the prerogative of the Public Works Committee, notwithstanding its broad public interest.

SENATOR LABEDZ: Thank you, Senator Schmit. Then, I, too, believe that water belongs to everyone and that if there are bills in the future that affect the cities and this would have a terrible impact on the cities if we continue to go ahead and refer all bills to Agriculture on water issues. I think that all water issues should definitely go to Public Works because it belongs to everyone. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Landis.

SENATOR LANDIS: Call the question, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: The question has been called. Do I see five hands? I do. The question is, shall the debate cease. All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote no. The question is, shall the debate cease? All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote nay. Have you all voted? The Clerk will record.

CLERK: 28 ayes, 3 nays, Mr. President, on the motion to cease debate.